

To: Miller, Andy[Miller.Andy@epa.gov]
From: Costa, Dan
Sent: Wed 7/12/2017 10:30:04 PM
Subject: RE: you've probably seen this

You know there was a NOVA show I think that was a mock trial of evolution v creationism based on the evidence with a jury etc. It was really interesting as enlightened creation (whatever it's called) and the foundations used in that thinking were disproven.

dlc

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From: Miller, Andy
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 6:00 PM
To: Costa, Dan <Costa.Dan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: you've probably seen this

Exactly. That's one of the core reasons why the scientific community is worried about this.

Does it have the effect of undermining the processes we've built over the last 80 years or more? On the other hand, if it's done correctly, it could result in the skeptics – at least the honest ones – having to say that they've had their chance and lost. That's a big if with this crowd, but I honestly think they believe that this sort of argument has not been done, simply because they don't know how science is done. Bryan and I were chatting about this, that we (on the science side) haven't been helped by the policy makers keeping the stage to themselves and being the ones who communicate the science. When they do it, it comes across as only supporting the policy they want, so everyone only hears that the science supports that policy. I understand why they want to take that approach, but it doesn't help in the long run.

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From: Costa, Dan

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 5:53 PM

To: Miller, Andy <Miller.Andy@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: you've probably seen this

Funny thing is you could have the same red-blue argument about the value of aspirin for headache or any of the other recommended use. Even more with newer drugs.

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From: Miller, Andy
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 5:25 PM
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Subject: RE: you've probably seen this

I hadn't seen it. It's an interesting discussion, and to me it confirms that he doesn't really understand what he's getting into with the science. If people think CSPAN is boring, make them watch a bunch of scientists arguing about the level of uncertainty associated with an ensemble of model results for different scenarios. He's looking at this as though it were evidence presented at a hearing or trial. He can set that up, but it's not anything that EPA could use as the basis for any decisions.

There's a very clear underlying mistrust of the scientific process here. It would be great if Bob or Bruce could talk with Yamada about the need to understand how this work actually gets done. That won't happen, I'm sure, but it's a serious need.

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From: Costa, Dan
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 5:05 PM
To: Miller, Andy <Miller.Andy@epa.gov>

Subject: you've probably seen this

PRUITT'S READY FOR PRIME TIME: EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt told [Reuters](#) Tuesday his plans for a "red team" review of climate change science may be televised, Pro's Alex Guillén [reports](#), and accused scientists of not sufficiently exploring the issue. "It is a question about how much we contribute to it. How do we measure that with precision? And by the way, are we on an unsustainable path? And is it causing an existential threat?" Pruitt said. The review is "not necessarily" the first step toward undoing the 2009 endangerment finding that declared climate change a threat, according to Pruitt. Full transcript [here](#).

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